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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 26 March 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires, a.i.,
of the Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Government of Romania, issued on 16 March 1992, on the situation in some districts of the Republic of Moldova on the left bank of the Nistru River.

I would very much appreciate it if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 69 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Valeriu FLOREAN
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

* A/47/50.

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ANNEX

Statement issued on 16 March 1992 by the Government of Romania

The Government of Romania is deeply worried about the ongoing developments in the districts of the Republic of Moldova on the left bank of the Nistru, which have strongly disquieted public opinion in the country. Of particular concern are the continued positioning and strengthening of Russian Cossack forces. They have crossed over the territory of Ukraine, coming from far away, and are armed with huge quantities of modern weaponry, which equipped the forces of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The Government of Romania can hardly understand how mercenary gangs can have access to such arsenals. One could explain that either as the complicity of those whose task is to guard those arsenals or as an inability to guard them properly. Both assumptions point to equally serious situations, as in either case the guarantees regarding nuclear arms control can be strongly questioned.

We are also worried about the activities of the separatist forces in those districts, accompanied by violence and aggression against the legal State authorities, as well as against large sectors of the population.

Those developments are compounded by a campaign of sheer misinformation, including allegations about a would-be Romanian military presence in those districts, for the consumption of domestic and international public opinion. All that is bound to affect adversely the territorial integrity and lawful order in the Republic of Moldova, wich is an independent State, a Member of the United Nations and a participant in the CSCE process. Should those developments continue, a centre of tension and destabilization will emerge that will upset not only the Republic of Moldova but also a much wider area around it.

The Government of Romania deems it necessary that all the political factors which can contribute to a favourable turn of events, and first of all the Governments of the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Romania, must take urgent actions so that violence is stopped and the mercenary gangs are disarmed. There should further be a settlement of all issues of concern to the population in those districts through talks and negotiations, starting from the idea that the territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova must be safeguarded and all human rights protected. It is imperative to take undelayed action towards that end, since it is easier to prevent than quench, as everybody knows.

The Government of Romania believes that the way which will be followed to lessen that tension will test the willingness and readiness of the States that have recently emerged on the territory of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to conduct their mutual relations on the basis of the principles of international law and the commitments they have undertaken by adhering to the

Charter of the United Nations and the CSCE Final Act. Pursuant to principles enshrined in those documents, States have the duty to refrain from organizing or encouraging the organization of irregular forces or armed gangs, particularly mercenary gangs, which plan forays on the territory of another State.

The Government takes note of the communiqué issued by the Foreign Ministers of Romania and the Russian Federation on 13 March 1992, where they call upon all the parties involved to show restraint and solve problems on the basis of the principles of international law and the CSCE documents. The Government hopes that its stand will be of consequence and the situation in the districts on the left bank of the Nistru will calm down.

The Government of Romania expresses its solidarity with and support for the stand and measures undertaken by the Government of the Republic of Moldova with a view to arriving at a peaceful solution to the conflict in the districts on the left bank of the Nistru, which should include the laying down of arms by civilians and the withdrawal of mercenaries from the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

In the same spirit, the Government of Romania calls on the Governments of the Russian Federation and Ukraine to exercise all their influence so that the acts of violence and terror against civilians in the districts on the left bank of the Nistru are stopped.

The Government of Romania will continue to monitor closely the trend of events, while keeping in permanent contact with the Government of the Republic of Moldova, fully determined to take all available political action in order to contribute to the restoration of quiet and lawful order in the districts on the left bank of the Nistru.